

Die Musiek-Akademie SA
The Music Academy SA



Klavier / Piano

Graad 1
Grade 1

**Backtracks
Included
Klankbaan
Ingesluit**

Sillabus / Syllabus 2026
tot verdere kennisgewing
until further notice

WELCOME

We would like to welcome you to The Music Academy SA, and introduce you to our brand NEW 2026 Piano Syllabus.

What are TMASA Exams

TMASA provides an exciting new way to graded exams in various instruments. Our system has been developed over the past 35 plus years and offers each candidate an unique way to present their exams to TMASA.

Why TMASA Exams

Our exams offer:

1) Complete flexibility

You can enter an exam and complete it whenever is convenient for you.

2) Reduced stress levels

Due to the fact all our exams takes place in a digital format, this place less stress on candidates during the exams, therefore they perform BETTER and receive BETTER results in the exams.

3) More Creative

Candidates are more creative with their music through the use of various improvisation techniques and develop their own style of playing music.

4) Lower costs

Our exams are less less expensive than traditional systems and everything that is required is in one single publication which also includes even the brand new backtracks for each section and music piece.

5) Backtracks

With the new backtracks candidates will have a choice of different styles in which they want to present the section or music piece.



General Information

Changes to the 2026 Syllabus

- There are various changes in the new 2026 Piano Grade Syllabus.
- The repertoire lists have been revised and include a mixture of new and retained pieces.
- Changes with regards to the genre exercises levels.

What is new in the 2026 Syllabus

- New music pieces for different levels are now included.
- Sections will now be played together with backtracks.
- Some sections have more than one option to choose from with regards to selection of a backtrack.
- New sections have been added to some of the grades.

Rules with regards to backtracks

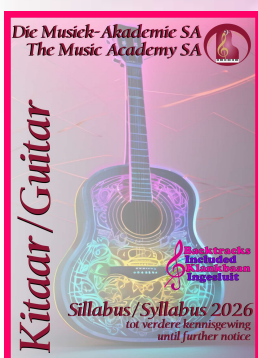
- Only the backtracks that is prescribed are allowed to be used. No changes or replacement backtracks are allowed during examinations.
- The correct backtrack must be used during examinations as indicated in the backtrack list.
- Sections that is required to be presented with backtracks will have a sign next to it. This sign is similar to the one below.



Backtrack Klankbaan

Other Publications

Coming Soon



ORDER
NOW

Syllabus Layout

Technical Section

Candidates are required to prepare the following sections for examinations:

1. Sight Reading

Requirements for this section will be set out as per publication. There are samples of music passages that can be expected to be used during examinations. Sight reading that must be used during the exams will be supplied to teachers before the time.

2. Practical Musicianship

Requirements for this section will be set out as per publication. There are samples of music passages that can be expected to be used during examinations.

3. Scales

The following scales must be prepared for the exams.

F Major Scale

Must be played as shown in the publication. Tempo of ♩ = 110.

Scales must be played with backtrack.



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D Minor Scale

Must be played as shown in the publication. Tempo of ♩ = 110.

Scales must be played with backtrack.



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4. Genre Exercise

The following genre exercise must be prepared for the exams.

G Major - Ballad

Must be played as shown in the publication. Tempo of ♩ = 120.

Exercise must be played with backtrack.



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5. Chord Construction

Must be able to explain what a chord is and demonstrate on instrument as per publication. Must know and mention the Jazz formula during the exam.

6. Improvisation

Improvisation is required as per this grade. Candidate is required to know the definition of the technique, and must point out where it was used in the music piece.

Syllabus Layout

List A - Improvisation

Candidates are required to prepare the following section for examinations:

7. List A

Please keep the following in mind when preparing the section:

- 1) One piece must be selected and played for List A.
- 2) Improvisation is required for this grade, candidates must make use of improvisation technique. Chords must be added in open bars. Chord changes or improvements are allowed.
- 3) The set tempo of the music piece must be kept as written. No changes are allowed.
- 4) Music pieces are NOT allowed to be replaced by any other piece, even if it is the same music piece but just written differently.
- 5) This music piece may be presented with or without a backtrack. Should the candidate present it with a backtrack, then it will be the responsibility of the candidate to obtain his/her own backtrack. A backtrack can be requested from The Academy at an additional fee for the candidate.
- 6) Make sure that the music piece is repeated if written so.



Backtrack can be requested from The Academy at an additional fee for the candidate.



Syllabus Layout

List B- As Written

Candidates are required to prepare the following section for examinations:

8. List B

Please keep the following in mind when preparing the section:



- 1) One piece must be selected and played for List B.
- 2) This music piece must be played as written, NO changes are allowed to be made.
- 3) The set tempo of the music piece must be kept as written. No changes are allowed.
- 4) Music pieces are NOT allowed to be replaced by any other piece, even if it is the same music piece but just written differently.
- 5) This music piece must be presented with a backtrack. Please ensure that the correct backtrack is used during examinations. No changes are allowed.
- 6) Make sure that the music piece is repeated if written so.



Backtrack must be used as indicated.



Syllabus Layout

List C – Own Choice

Candidates are required to prepare the following section for examinations:

9. List C

Please keep the following in mind when preparing the section:

- 1) One piece must be selected and played for List C.
- 2) Although not required for this grade, candidates can make use of improvisation techniques. Chords can be added in open bars. Chord changes or improvements are allowed.
- 3) The set tempo of the music piece must be kept as written. No changes are allowed.
- 4) Music pieces are NOT allowed to be replaced by any other piece, even if it is the same music piece but just written differently.
- 5) This music piece may be presented with or without a backtrack. Should the candidate present it with a backtrack, then it will be the responsibility of the candidate to obtain his/her own backtrack. A backtrack can be requested from The Academy at an additional fee for the candidate.
- 6) Make sure that the music piece is repeated if written so.



Backtrack can be requested from The Academy at an additional fee for the candidate.





List A - Songs

I'm A Believer
The Way Gods Friends Do
Pink Panther
Old Folk Medley

List B - Songs

Grace Medley
The Singing Medley
Rudolph Who?
The Lion Sleeps Tonight



Please note that this music has been arranged for the sole purpose of use by The Music Academy SA.

Syllabus Layout



Teachers Corner

1. PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU READ THE FOLLOWING:

- * Requirements on Page 6.
- * Explanation on Page 7 with regards to ensemble spell if needed.
- * Explanations of requirements at the beginning of each list.

2. Please ensure that candidates are calm and relaxed.

3. Candidates are requested to announce their Name, Surname & Grade in the beginning of each video. To ensure clarity candidates are required to face the camera when talking.

4. Recording of video examinations is set out in the "Recording Publication". This publication will be made available from The Academy directly or on website.

5. The general rules & regulations apply as set out in the R & R publication. This publication is available on request.

6. Only digital examinations will take place. No Face to Face examinations.

7. Assessment Reports & Certificates will be send to teachers only via email.

Contact Details

Tel: (071) 317 - 0233



Email: info@themusicacademysa.com

Inquiries about examinations can be directed to
The Head of Examinations at

exams@themusicacademysa.com



Digital Examinations